Punishment of officers using sub-standard material in production of arms an$_i$i ammunition

•118. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a procedure to fix responsibility - and to award punishment to officers found guilty of using sub-standard material in production of arms and ammunition ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT); (a) to (c) Procedure already exists to fix responsibility and to award punishment to officers found guilty of us'ng substandard material in production.

2. All material used in production of Arms and Ammunition is duly inspected before such use.

3. Procedure for quality assurance is designed on a three-tier system of inspection. First stage is the inspection of material at the supplier's premises by an inspection team headed by a Non-gazetted Officer of Directorate General of Quality Assurance. At the second stage, confirmatory inspection is carried out, also at supplier's premises, by a Gazetted Officer or a senior Non-gazetted Officer'. Where the first-tier inspection is on sample basis, the confirming officer draws 50 per cent of the samples taken for *the* first-tier inspection and an equal portion from the uninspected bulk of the lot. In the third stage, where it is required, considering th$_e$ criticality of the item, samples are taken out on random basis for laboratory tests. Results of the inspection at different stages are submitted to the Head of the Quality Assurance Establishment for decision on acceptance of lots.

4. Under a system of defect investi gation in force, where defect reports are received from users by the Directorate General of Quality Assurance, the causes of failure are identified and corrective measures are taken, as also, action to fix responsibility for human failure or negligence etc., if any.

Set-back in production of LSI and VLSI Chips due to fire

*119. SHRI SHANKER SlNH VAGHELA: SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss and the setback i$_n$ production programme of LSI and VLSI chips fo$_r$ the electronic industry due to the recent fire at the assembly section of the public sector Semi-conductor Cpmplex Ltd., at Mohali near Chandigarh on the 7th February, 1989; and

(b) the steps taken to make-up the loss find with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRi'K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The fire at Semiconductor Complex Limited (SCL), SAS Nagar, Punjab, has destroyed the LSI/VLSI chips manufacturing and R and D facilities. The estimated loss is Rs. 60 crores.

(b) 'An Interim Action Plan to ensure continuity of supply of LSI/ VLSI chips to various user$_a$ of SCL has been made operative. This consists of import -of finished semincon-ductor devices to meet the immediate user requirements followed by arrangements to secure diffused wafers and their packaging and testing i$_n$ lndia. Order have been placed for the clock devices, pulse dialler, codec and microprocessors and deliveries are expected to commerce in May, 1989. It

is proposed to rebuild the facilities at SCL using this opportunity to the extent feasible to upgrade tbe technology level and a plan for this is under finalisation. SCL is expected to resume manufacture of LSI/VLSI chips through in-house diffusion in about 2 years after the project for rebuilding SCL is initiated.

Withdrawal of Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone

*120. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether his Ministry had informed the Kelkar Committee that Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone were very harmful drugs and were likely to be banned in the near future;

(b) if so, when and en. what basis such comments were made;

(c) whether his Ministry is the final authority to allow marketing and withdrawal of drugs in the country;

(d) if so, by when these drugs are likely to be withdrawn; and

(e) the names of the countries where such drugs have been with draw and the reasons for their with drawal in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE); (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, State drug control administration ca_n stop marketing and also order withdrawal in accordance with the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules.

d) and (e) A statement is laid on the. Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The experts consulted have not recommended withdrawal of Oxyphenbutazone/Phenylbutazone a» these are considered as drug of choice for certain musculo skeletal disorders such as ankylosing spondylitis and gouty arthrits. The use of these drugs have been restricted for these two indications .

Phenylbutazone is reported to be' withdrawan in Norway, Jordan and , United Arab Emirates.

Oxyphenbutazone has been withdrawn in Norway, Israel, U.K., United Arab Emirates, Finland, Jordan and Zimbabwe.

These drugs were reported to be withdrawn in some countries on the ground that their systematic use may cause bone marrow depression. However, both these drug's continue to be marketed for restricted indications in many other countries.

Irration Axed dose combination of Tranquilizers with Vitamins

649. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred /Question 2128 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact number of Tranquilizers and Vitami-nes are irrational;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to reconsider the marketing of these combinations based on rationality; and

(cy if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH ANDFAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The I question of rationality of fixed dose